



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
“LIFTED UP”

REV. ZACH J. HOLDORF

8AM & 9:30AM SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021 IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WAUSAU, WISCONSIN

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

“LIFTED UP”

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FOCUS Look out! There were snakes biting the Israelites, sent by God as punishment for complaining about the manna, that miraculous food He gave on the way to the Promised Land. But look up! See the bronze serpent Moses put on a pole. Everyone who looked up at the serpent will live. The serpent was a type of Christ, a parallel symbol in the Bible. We, too, have snakes—our discontent with God’s daily blessings and lack of faith in His promises. But as we look up in faith to Jesus, the Christ on the cross, we shall be saved. That faith is a gift of God in His grace. Jesus is the center of the gracious Good News. We are God’s workmanship, and now He holds the door open as we walk through, looking up to Jesus.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

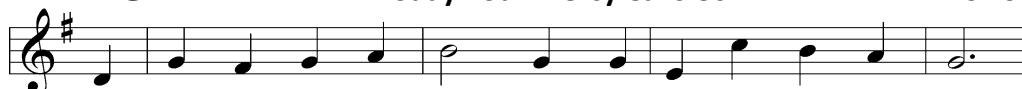
RINGING of the BELLS

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

LSB 915



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre-cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

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INVOCATION

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Num. 21:9, Eph. 2:4-5; John 3:16

- L** Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone,
- C** **he would look at the bronze serpent and live.**
- L** But God, . . . even when we were dead in our trespasses,
- C** **made us alive together with Christ.**
- L** For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,
- C** **that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.**

Confession and Absolution

1 John 1:8-9; Psalm 51:1-4a, 10

- L** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- L** As we gather in God's presence today for worship, it is important that we come humbly, confessing our sins to God our Father that we might receive from Him His incredible forgiveness and be fully restored. Let us then, confess our sin to God using the words of David:
- C** **Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Amen.**

L Friends in Christ, God in His mercy has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I announce that grace of God to each of you; and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the I - Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

HYMN of RESPONSE "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

LSB 809, v.1,3



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

SALUTATION and PRAYER of the DAY

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

OLD TESTAMENT

Numbers 21:4-9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way.⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.”

⁶ Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died.⁷ And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord, that he take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.⁸ And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.”⁹ So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

MUSICAL OFFERING “Jesus Loves Me”

Lisa Knoll, flute; Terry Knoll, guitar

EPISTLE

Ephesians 2:1-10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience—³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.⁴ But God, being rich in mercy,

because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶ and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL OFFERING

“The Peace of Christ”

arr. Keil

HOLY GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

L The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. ²¹ But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God.”

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE for the CHILDREN

HYMN of the DAY

“God Loved the World So That He Gave”

LSB 571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5. If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.

- △ 6. Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To You, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

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SERMON

“Lifted Up”

Rev. Zach J. Holdorf

APOSTLES' CREED

- © I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER of the CHURCH

- ℒ Let us pray for the Church here and around the world and for all people in their various circumstances.

Heavenly Father, many people follow the course of this world carrying out their desires, by nature children of wrath. You sent Your Son that the world might be saved through Him. Today we pray for people who influence our culture and society but without faith in our Savior – open their eyes to look up to Christ on the cross, working faith in their hearts, and making them alive together with Christ. We pray for our pastors, teachers, DCE's, youth leaders, missionaries, and all who lead and teach Your people. Protect and bless them as they minister to us, proclaim Your Word, and point us to Christ, our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Compassionate God, Your mercy endures forever. Deliver all who cry to You, especially those who are hungry or without homes. Give life in places where death seems triumphant; grant healing to those who are sick, (*especially...*); visit and comfort those who mourn... Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Merciful Lord, by Your grace we have been saved. Fill us to overflowing with that grace, that we may show mercy to others. By Your Holy Spirit, move among us all so that we may serve as Jesus served and be powerful witnesses to Your love.

C **hear our prayer.**

L Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray.

C **Amen.**

The LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

L The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

CLOSING HYMN "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

LSB 918



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

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POSTLUDE

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PRESIDING MINISTER: *Rev. Zach J. Holdorf, Senior Pastor*

LITURGIST: *Rev. Timothy D. Smith, Associate Pastor*

ORGANIST: *Mr. Matthew Hoehne, Director of Music*

INSTRUMENTALISTS: *Lisa Knoll, flute; Terry Knoll, guitar*

ELDERS: *8am— ; 9:30am—Chad Schwantes*

ACOLYTES: *8am—Zeb Prahl, Sophia Goetsch; 9:30am—*

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

Your presence is very special to us. May your faith be strengthened and your life enriched as you join us in worship to God!

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

8am & 9:30am Sunday

BLENDED WORSHIP SERVICES IN THE UPPER SANCTUARY—

5pm Saturday & 11am Sunday

- **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**—Holy Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of the month in the Upper Sanctuary. We invite those who have been instructed in the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Others are asked to speak with a pastor before receiving the Sacrament. *Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*
- **LARGE PRINT**—large print copies of the bulletin are available on the table in the Narthex or you may ask the usher for one.
- **CHILDREN'S BULLETINS**—for ages 3-6 & 7-12 years, are available on the table in the Narthex.
- **NURSERY**—for children ages 3 & under. The upper level nursery is located near the Church Lounge on Sundays. *Please Note: The upper level nursery will be unstaffed unless volunteers are available.*
- **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**—Sunday School is available for children 4 years old through 6th Grade at 9:30am on Sunday mornings during the school year. Christian Education courses for adults and young adults are held at 9:30am on Sunday mornings & various times throughout the week during the school year. Trinity is committed to Christian Education through the 4K-8th grade School, our Childcare (infant through 13 years), and through our association with Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School.
- **ELEVATOR**—is located next to the nursery on the upper level. On the lower level the elevator is located across from Classroom #101, which is past the offices. Use as needed.
- **RESTROOMS**—Narthex level across from the Library, lower level next to the elevator.
- **JOINING TRINITY**—We invite you to become part of this Christian community! If interested in membership, please speak with an elder or pastor, and we will contact you.

MISSION STATEMENT:

To gather people who grow in faith and share Jesus with all.

VISION STATEMENT:

To strive to be a mature and faithful congregation that is focused on our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.